

Moving Forward Through Therapy

The Gaitway Organisation

What a summer it has been for The Gaitway Organisation. From the launch of our brand new Intensive Saturdays, to seven full weeks of summer therapy, to welcoming new faces to our team — **you are at the heart of every step we take.**

MAY 2026 • NEW SESSIONS LAUNCH

Saturdays Take Off

May brought one of the biggest changes to our weekly offering yet — the launch of our brand new Intensive Saturdays, running separate sessions for Juniors and Seniors. The response was immediate, and Saturdays quickly became a firm favourite with families.

The same month, we also launched our Parent and Guardian Toddler Groups, bringing conductive education principles to our very youngest families, and began offering 1:1 sessions for children and young adults who benefit from focused, individual therapy time.

Three new ways to access Gaitway therapy, all launched in a single month — Intensive Saturdays, Parent and Guardian Toddler Groups, and 1:1 sessions. A huge thank you to our team for making it happen.

JUNE - AUGUST 2026 • SUMMER INTENSIVE SCHEME

Seven Weeks of Summer Therapy

This summer, our Intensive Scheme grew from four weeks to seven — and membership grew right along with it, with a 40% increase in children and young adults joining us.

We really noticed the difference. With up to seven weeks of intensive therapy behind them, our children and young adults made progress that was plain to see, and it has reinforced everything we believe about the value of sustained, intensive input.

We celebrated in style last Thursday afternoon, marking the end of the scheme. Every single one of our Gaitway Gang is a superstar, and every child and young adult received a certificate for their hard work over the summer.

Two special memorial trophies were also presented that afternoon. Méabh received the Caitlin Bowman Award for being a superstar, and Joshua received the Harry Withers Award for resilience and determination.



Méabh receiving the Caitlin Bowman Award



Joshua receiving the Harry Withers Award

ALONG THE WAY • CELEBRATING TOGETHER

A Few Birthdays to Celebrate

Summer also brought a few birthdays around Crescent Vitality, and we love any excuse for cake, balloons and a sing-song with the Gaitway Gang.



SUMMER ADVENTURES

Out and About — and a Few Extra Activities

As well as getting out and about, we packed in some brilliant extra activities during our sessions too:

Forest School: we visited Northern Ireland's first all-inclusive forest school, a brilliant morning of outdoor adventure for our children and young adults.

Flavour First: our very good friends at Flavour First spoiled us rotten once again — always a highlight of the summer.

Musical Bridges: we spent two fabulous days with our friends from Musical Bridges, Heidi and Stanley, playing lots of instruments and singing along.

Disability Sport NI: Terry from Disability Sport NI ran boccia sessions with us — two for our Juniors and two for our Seniors.



Our Gaitway Gang, all smiles at Crescent Vitality

SUMMER 2026 • OUR TEAM

New Faces, Familiar Support

Over the summer we welcomed Lauren, a conductor from the National Movement Centre in Birmingham, who supported 3 of our 7 weeks of Intensive Scheme — and we're delighted that Lauren will now be joining us one Saturday a month on an ongoing basis.

We were also delighted to welcome Michelle Stowell, a paediatric neuro physiotherapist, to the Gaitway team. Michelle has hit the ground running and we are thrilled to have her on board.

Dorinda continues to support us as a specialist neuro physiotherapist, and we were joined for part of the summer by Senior Conductor István, with us for 6 of the 7 weeks, and Conductor Vera, with us for 2 weeks — with István returning to us for our Halloween Camp.

We also want to say a huge thank you to our wonderful therapy assistants — a few new faces this summer, and a few familiar faces who have supported us for a number of years. Thank you to you all.

We feel very blessed to have such a great team around our children and young adults — thank you to every one of you.

MORE FROM THE SUMMER

Snapshots from Our Sessions

A few more moments from across our sessions this summer.





SEPTEMBER 2026 • A NEW CHAPTER

Back to School, and Saturdays Are Back

As summer draws to a close, our children and young adults are heading back to school, starting school for the very first time, or setting off on new adventures like college. We're taking a short break — but not for long.

Our Saturdays are going to be a regular fixture moving forward, and they'll return on Saturday 5th September.

COMING UP • AUTUMN 2026

What's Ahead

Autumn is going to be busy and exciting. Here's what's on the horizon:

- NI Health and Social Care Conference — Northern Ireland's largest health and social care conference takes place 6th–8th October, and we'll be showcasing there alongside some of our partners. There will be tickets for our young adults to attend too, so watch this space!
- Lord Mayor of Belfast — the Lord Mayor is coming to meet the Gaitway Gang on 26th October. We may ask everyone to come in that morning, as we want to show off as much as we possibly can!
- Disability Parliament — taking place late November/early December (exact date TBC). We have registered our interest.
- Halloween Camp — our Halloween Intensive Camp is coming up, and we're delighted that István will be returning to join us.

COMING UP • EQUIPMENT & TECHNOLOGY

Growing Our Partnerships

We're currently in talks with Marsi Robotics, Tyromotion and Trexo about a roadshow visit to us at Crescent Vitality — news about this will be released very soon, but it's exciting! These conversations are all about bringing more opportunities for our children and young adults.

BEHIND THE SCENES • FUNDING & RESOURCES

Grants, Gratitude and a New Laptop

Cóirle has been busy applying for grants and has had success with a few — which is really encouraging for the road ahead. We've also secured a new laptop from the Department of Finance, which is a welcome boost to our day-to-day running.

GET INVOLVED • SAVE THE DATE

Fashion with Purpose — Sunday 20th September

Mark your diary! Our autumn style fundraiser, Fashion with Purpose, takes place on Sunday 20th September — an afternoon of bottomless fizz and tea, live harp music, a fashion showcase, and autumn paint and sip, all in support of The Gaitway Organisation. Tickets are flying, so get yours soon.



And while you're at it — like and share us on Facebook, and keep an eye out for the launch of our brand new website, coming very soon!

GET INVOLVED • HOW YOU CAN HELP

Be Part of What We Are Building

Gaitway exists because people care. Whether you are a parent, a professional, a business owner, or simply someone who believes every child deserves the chance to thrive, we would love to hear from you.

Volunteer — Give Your Time

We are always looking for warm, dedicated volunteers to support our sessions and events. Whether you have an hour or a day, your time makes a real difference.

Come & Meet Us — See Gaitway in Action

We would love to welcome you through the doors at Crescent Vitality. Come and see what we do, meet our team, and experience the difference intensive therapy makes.

Share Your Skills — Offer Your Expertise

Do you have skills in communications, fundraising, legal, finance, HR, or another area? We are always open to hearing how your expertise could support our work.

Corporate & Community — Partner With Us

We welcome conversations with businesses and community groups who share our values. A partnership with Gaitway is a partnership with purpose.

If you can help in any way — big or small — please get in touch. Reach out to us at info@gaitway.org.uk or 07414 845021, or visit gaitway.org.uk.

What you have just read is the story of a small charity that keeps growing — new sessions, a longer summer scheme, new team members, and a full autumn ahead. You, our children and young people, and our families are the reason we keep going.

We will continue to push, advocate, build and celebrate. And we will keep you informed every step of the way. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions.

Moving Forward Through Therapy,

Cóirle & The Gaitway Team

A FEW MORE MOMENTS

From Our Summer



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